

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the present amendment and in light of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, and 4-7 are pending. In the present amendment, Claim 1 is currently amended. Support for the amendment to Claim 1 is provided, for example, in the specification at page 12, lines 1-12. Thus, no new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1, 2, and 4-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Ponsot et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,606,538, hereinafter “Ponsot”) in view of Hamachi (Japanese Publication No. 2004-189358) and Spitz et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2005/0099288, hereinafter “Spitz”).

Applicant thanks Examiner Chan and Supervisory Examiner Benson for the courtesy of an interview granted to Applicant’s representative on August 2, 2010, at which time the outstanding issues in this case were discussed. During the interview, arguments were presented that Himachi does not disclose an image data accumulation device that sequentially accumulates and stores individual pieces of image data output from *each of* said plurality of monitoring cameras. Instead, it was argued that Himachi in paragraph [0030] describes installing an image data storage device for *every* surveillance camera in a basket. Examiners Chan and Benson agreed with this argument, but asserted that Ponsot in Fig. 3 includes a single frame memory 24 into which images from each of the cameras are stored. It was then proposed to the Examiners to amend Claim 1 to further define how the images are stored in the image data accumulation device. Accordingly, it was proposed to amend Claim 1 to recite “said image data accumulation device divides a storage area of the images into sections corresponding to a number of said monitoring cameras, said pieces of image data being accumulated in the divided storage areas such that after an accumulation into all of the divided storage areas is finished, new pieces of image data are sequentially accumulated

while overwriting oldest ones of previously accumulated pieces of digital compression image data.” It was argued that Ponsot and Himachi are silent with regards to these features. The Examiners seemed to agree, but indicated a further search would need to be conducted.

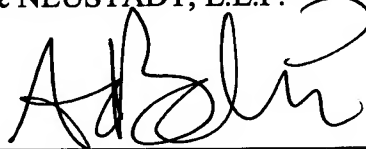
Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding grounds for rejection of Claim 1, and all claims dependent thereon, is respectfully requested. The present response constitutes Applicant’s statement of substance of the personal interview.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant’s undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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